U.S. Application No. 10/696,190 - Filed: October 28, 2003

Amendment Dated: January 28, 2005

Reply to Office Action Dated: November 2, 2004

## **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) Fuser roller (3) for a printing machine with internal heating elements, which has a cylindrically shaped body (12) and which has flanges (11) that close off the ends, comprising: a connection that incorporates at least one <u>substantially ball-shaped</u> connecting element (13), for the body and the flanges, that is movable in a rolling motion relative thereto <u>to balance out</u>, in every <u>direction possible</u>, environmentally induced changes in the sizes of said body and said flanges.

## 2. (Cancelled)

- 3. (Currently Amended) Fuser roller (3) as in Claim 1, wherein said body (12) of the fuser roller (3) has an annular groove (14) with a half circular cross section in the vicinity of the connection area of said flange (11) and said body (12), which holds said <u>ball-shaped</u> connecting element (13).
- 4. (Currently Amended) Fuser roller (3) as in Claim 1, wherein said flange (11) can be inserted into the inside of said body (12) at the end of said body (12); and further including a spring plate (29) placed on the outer side of the end of said body (12) to attach said flange (11) that has been inserted into said body (12).

## 5. (Cancelled)

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6. (Currently Amended) Fuser roller (3) as in Claim 3, wherein said flange (11) has on its rim that faces toward the inner side of said body (12), a quarter-circular shaped offset (25) that is matched to the shape of said <u>ball-shaped</u> connecting element (13).

- 7. **(Original)** Fuser roller (3) as in Claim 6, further including chamfers (16,17) on the edges of said half-circular shaped annular groove (14) and/or on the edges of said quarter-circular shaped offset (25).
- 8. **(Original)** Fuser roller (3) as in Claim 7, wherein said chamfers (16,17) have an angle between 0° and 45°, preferably between 15° and 20° relative to the vertical.
- 9. (Currently Amended) Fuser roller (3) as in Claim 1, further including heat ray (28) reflecting reflector elements on the side of said flange (11) that faces the inside of said body (12), said reflector elements arranged as ring shaped reflector segments (27) on a reflector plate (18).
  - 10. (Cancelled)